

CONFIDENTIAL
Department of StateOUTGOING
TELEGRAM

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SAID THE AMBASSADOR'S CASE WAS CLEARLY POLITICAL, THAT HE KNEW SOME PEOPLE BLAMED THE NAVY FOR IT, BUT THAT SOMETHING ELSE WAS INVOLVED, PERHAPS, A LEFTIST GROUP TRYING TO MAKE TROUBLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT. HE SAID HE DOESN'T BELIEVE THAT ONE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FORCES OUT OF CONTROL IS RESPONSIBLE, AS THIS WOULD GO AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT AND DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.

9. MRS. DERIAN SAID THAT BECAUSE OF THE DISORDER SO MANY CAN OPERATE THINKING THEY HAVE THE APPROVAL OF EITHER THE GOVERNMENT OR THE PEOPLE, THAT THE LEFT WING HAS BEEN LICKED BUT A MONSTER CREATED. ADMIRAL MASSERA SAID HE DIDN'T SEE IT THAT WAY. HE SAID THE RIGHT WING IS VERY SMALL IN ARGENTINA AND THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN STEPS, LIKE THE CLOSING OF THE MAGAZINE CABILDO. HE SAID THE RIGHT EXISTS ONLY AS A POLITICAL FORCE. MRS. DERIAN MENTIONED THAT THE INCIDENT AGAINST THE LAWYERS COULDN'T HAVE OCCURRED WITHOUT SOME OFFICIAL SUPPORT. ADMIRAL MASSERA ASKED WHAT PRESIDENT VIDELA HAD TOLD HER ABOUT THIS INCIDENT AND, WHEN SHE RESPONDED THAT THEY HADN'T DISCUSSED IT, HE SAID THAT INCIDENTS SUCH AS IT COULD BE COUNTED ON THE FINGERS OF YOUR HAND.

10. MRS. DERIAN ASKED WHAT THE CHANCES WERE FOR EITHER A COMPLETE OR PARTIAL REINSTATEMENT OF THE RIGHT OF OPTION. ADMIRAL MASSERA EXPLAINED THAT THIS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT HAD BEEN SUSPENDED FOR SIX MONTHS, THAT THIS TIME WAS NEARLY UP, AND THAT THE THOUGHT WAS TO REINSTATE IT. HE EXPLAINED THAT IN THE BEGINNING MANY PEOPLE WERE UNDER EXECUTIVE JUDGMENT AND IT WAS DIFFICULT TO CLARIFY CASES. HE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO GET CASES MOVING AND BROUGHT TO TRIAL SO THAT THERE COULD BE RELEASES AND A RESTORATION OF THE RIGHT OF OPTION. HE ASKED MRS. DERIAN TO MAINTAIN AN EQUILIBRIUM REALIZING THAT WHILE THESE CASES WERE IMPORTANT, THEY WERE OLD AND FEW AND THE JUNTA WAS ON THE ROAD TO NORMALIZATION.

11. MRS. DERIAN SAID SHE HAD THE SENSE BUT WAS WORRIED ABOUT UNCERTAINTY AMONG LOWER GRADE OFFICIALS AND WONDERED WHETHER WHEN THE CHARGES CAME THEY WOULD BE DIRECT AND CLEAR SO THAT PEOPLE WOULDN'T FEEL THEMSELVES IN JEOPARDY AND THE PROCESS OF LOCATING THE DISAPPEARED WILL BE ENHANCED RATHER THAN HURT. ADMIRAL MASSERA SAID THE GOVERNMENT COULD, AT LEAST, PUBLISH A LIST IN THE NEWSPAPERS OF ALL THE PEOPLE IT HAS STATING IT DOESN'T KNOW WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO OTHERS. HE SAID THE LIST WOULDN'T BE LONG, THAT SOME LISTS ARE BEING PUBLISHED AND THAT WHILE MANY HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO TRIAL HE REALIZES THERE ARE SOME IN A GREY ZONE AND THAT THIS HURTS THE GOVERNMENT.

12. MRS. DERIAN ENDED BY REFERRING TO THE HABEAS CORPUS PETITIONS SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE BY THE SUPREME COURT SAYING IT WAS MUCH ON PEOPLES MINDS AND THAT SHE WOULD BE GLAD WHEN ALL THIS WAS OVER. SHE SAID THAT THE REINSTATEMENT OF LEGAL PROCEDURES WOULD CERTAINLY HELP RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND STRESSED THAT WE WERE ANXIOUS TO RETURN TO NORMAL GOOD RELATIONS.

13. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADD COMMENTS AND SUGGEST DISTRIBUTION. VANCE

Declassified Case: 57067 Date: 06-04-2013

PART II

BOD177

HA County File #77

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